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ABSTRACT

Thirteen teacher centers in North Carolina are listed and described in terms of: (1) location; (2) operating hours; (3) program design, objectives, and services; (4) resources; (5) staff; (6) setting; (7) target audience; (8) fees; (9) program origin; (10) affiliation; (11) administrative policies; and (12) publications and information services. (CJ)

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TEACHER CENTERS IN NORTH CAROLINA

Prepared By

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State Department of Public Instruction
Raleigh, North Carolina

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SOUTHERN PIEDMONT EDUCATIONAL CONSORTIUM

619 Wall Street
Albemarle, North Carolina 28001

(704) 983-2126

Director: Jean D. Owen

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, open evenings and Saturday hours upon request or for special workshops.

Program: The Policy Board of the Teacher Center designed for the SPEC Project to have three sites, one each at Cabarrus, Kizer and Monroe. Each site is staffed with a resource coordinator who is based in the center, an instructional coordinator who works in the schools, and a teacher counselor who serves all sites. The project director's office is at the Southwest Regional Education Center in Albemarle. The staff sees its role as facilitator, advisor, and broker for matching needs and resources.

The Teacher Center seeks to develop study and service with three objectives; teacher training, curriculum development and research. Workshops and seminars are planned from on-going needs identified by teachers. Awareness sessions introduce new methods and materials. Skill groups, grade level support groups and content teaching groups study indepth educational issues. Teachers are encouraged and trained to be peer group leaders.

Materials for borrow, Make it-take it, consultations, recyclable materials and cardboard carpentry are continuously available.

Services include: Workshops, classroom observations, demonstrations, consultations, groups, presentations, pair resources, material resources.

Daytime, evening, weekend and summer programs are planned by and for teachers, paraprofessionals, substitute teachers, administrators, and community people around identified issues.

The Teacher Center does not seek to surplant LEA inservice program, but rather offer study and service that complements local education goals on a volunteer basis.

Resources: Teacher-made learning activities; recyclable materials; library for personal, professional use; curriculum and research; magazines, new curriculum materials; animals on loan; laminator; copier; mimeograph machine; VTR: paper cutters; student exhibits; human, material, and place resource file including area teachers, university personnel and national consultants with identified specialties.

Staff:

CABARRUS SITE

Resource Coordinator, Emily Stephenson
Instructional Coordinator, Nell Fields

KIZER SITE

Resource Coordinator, Norma Faggart
Instructional Coordinator, Gloria Boler

MONROE SITE

Resource Coordinator, Lillian Rorie
Instructional Coordinator, Kaye Polk

SERVING OVERALL PROJECT

Teacher Counselor, Ruth McSwain
Evaluation Coordinator, Dr. Eugene Schaffer
Dr. Mark Montgomery
Documentation Coordinator for Southeast United States
Dr. Roberta Riley

CLERICAL

Lisa Deal, Paulette Gardner, Jean Helton, Joyne Hunsucker, and Thelma Silliman

Setting: Kizer site - small reopened school; Monroe site - basement of an elementary school; Cabarrus site - two rooms on the second floor of the administration building.

Participation: Elementary and Secondary teachers, Administrators, community people from ten LEA's in the Southern Piedmont Educational Consortium on a voluntary basis; people outside consortium area welcome as space is available.

Fees and Credit: Teachers may be released from class. Substitute will be paid by the project. Small fees are charged for consumables, photocopies and laminating. Registration is sometimes charged for workshops.

The Teacher Center will grant renewal credit (prior approval from the LEA is suggested) and will organize courses for certification and graduate courses.

Affiliation: LEA fiscal agent - Albemarle City Schools

Support: Federal grant; project of the Southern Piedmont Educational Consortium, fiscal agent, Albemarle City Schools

Decision-Making: The original project was written by a policy board composed of sixteen people, ten of whom are classroom teachers, three administrators, and three representatives of higher education. The policy board sets policies governing the center as well as determining directions and goals of the center development.

Origin:	Availability of federal funds made feasible the ideas that had been germinating in teachers and administrators minds since 1972.
Information:	Monthly newsletter, regular press releases, brochures.

APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY TEACHING CENTERS

Appalachian State University
College of Learning and Human Development
Boone, North Carolina 28608

(704) 262-2252

Director: Each of the five Teaching Centers has a director:

Western Carolina Center	Mr. Mike Ortiz
Wilkes Area Teaching Center	Dr. John Deason
Charlotte/Mecklenburg Teaching Center	Mr. Joe Murphy
Winston-Salem/Forsyth Teaching Center	Mrs. Madeline Bradford Mr. Richard Wilson, Assoc. Dir.
Caldwell/Catawba Teaching Center	Mrs. Margaret Gragg

Appalachian State University's Contact Persons are:

Dr. Frank Bruno, Dean of the College of Learning and Human Development

Dr. J. Pat Knight, Director of Laboratory Experiences

Hours: Varies per Center and per extension courses taught.
Usual: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Program: The College of Learning and Human Development at Appalachian State University has embarked on a program of creating a network of Teaching Centers to service various geographic areas in North Carolina. With that embarkation comes a commitment to draw upon the real and ever present experiences of the public schools for making teacher preparation more effective.

The Centers will be coordinating agencies for more extensive and intensive field experiences for the pre-service teacher.

The Centers will become coordinators of a better integrated in-service or staff development program.

The Centers will act as information exchange banks of promising and/or proven ideas, programs, strategies, and techniques.

The Centers will act as a follow-up and feedback mechanism for the impact and effectiveness of all aspects of the teacher preparation program.

The Centers will act as contracting agencies for the identification of skills and attitudes deemed necessary by the profession and will facilitate the subsequent development of learning activities/experiences to facilitate their achievement.

The appropriate University personnel, through the Center structure and in coordination with public school personnel, identify and promote master teachers and classroom situations to be utilized by the University students in their student teaching and intern experiences.

Resources: The Teaching Centers are housed in permanent facilities. Each provides a reception area, director's office, resource room(s), equipment room and classrooms for workshops and off-campus courses. Each Center provides a variety of media equipment, including video-tape apparatus, xerox machines, duplicating equipment, laminating machines and typewriters.

Staff: Directors and full-time scretaries. The administrative and teaching staff of the incorporated areas participate in the operation of the Centers.

Setting: Within the local public school setting of the four school systems and the Western Carolina Center (for the handicapped).

Participation: All school related personnel of grades K-12 participate as needs and interests dictate. Additionally, undergraduate student teachers attend seminars and workshops and graduate students attend off-campus graduate classes.

Fees and Credits: Appalachian State University offers field-based graduate courses at and through the centers. These courses are taught on a demand basis and are paid for by the individual students.

In-service and renewal workshops and seminars are also offered at the Centers. Instructors are often paid for out of University center support funds with no cost to participants.

On occasion minor fees are requested from teachers for materials they have used at the centers.

The general policy has been one of service to the school systems wherein the centers are based.

Affiliation and Support: The Centers are a joint project between the individual school systems aud Appalachian State University. The school system provides physical space, some utilities (heat, telephone, etc.) and various forms of equipment. The University provides the Center Director, released ¼ time from a full student teaching load, a full-time secretary, some equipment, all materials, and funds for workshops and seminars.

Decision-Making: As stated in the response to "Affiliation and Support", the center concept is a joint project between the individual systems and Appalachian State University. Because of this arrangement, major decisions are made jointly by the school systems designee and the Center Director. The Center Directors are answerable to Appalachian State's Director of Laboratory Experiences who acts under the direction of the Dean of the College of Learning and Human Development.

Minor or incidental decisions are often handled solely by the Center Director.

Origin: The Centers were an outgrowth of an idea conceived by a former Dean of the College of Learning and Human Development. His insight and creativity facilitated the development of four Centers. The newest Center was a culmination of efforts by our present Dean and the Director of Laboratory Experiences in conjunction with the staff of Western Carolina Center in Morganton, N.C.

The ASU Field Advisory Council also had input into the structural design and objectives of the Centers.

Information: The Centers publish lists of materials, workshops, seminars, and courses available at the Center. Because each Center is somewhat unique, publications differ according to Center priorities.

THE MOUNTAIN AREA TEACHER EDUCATION CENTER

391 Hendersonville Road
Asheville, North Carolina 28803

(704) 274-3355 and 274-3356

Director: Dr. Jerry M. Russell

Hours: Open during school hours, evenings and summers

Program: The Mountain Area Teacher Education Center program has been developed around four broad goals for redefinition of teacher continuing education, training strategies, instructional processes, and student achievement. The program goals are:

(1) To develop a model for professional development which emphasizes introspective needs analysis, role definition, systems continuous program approaches, and alternative modes of instruction for educational professionals.

(2) To bring about long term changes in the basic structure and processes of teacher training and professional development in the mountain areas of western North Carolina.

(3) To make immediate and long term gains in student achievement, and,

(4) To develop alternative education delivery systems for teachers appropriate to the rural school systems.

A wide variety of activities are used to accomplish the goals of the program.

Resources: Curriculum materials, audio-visual equipment, teacher supplies, catalogues of resources, library, staff development materials.

Staff: Dr. Jerry M. Russell, Director
1 Coordinator of Community Resources and Materials Development
1 Professional Development Counselor
1 Secretary

Setting: A portion of Biltmore Elementary School facility

Participation: Buncombe County Schools Personnel. The Mountain Area Teacher Education Center operates a dissemination network which includes the western district of North Carolina.

Fees and Credits:	A variety of courses and workshops for credit and non-credit are offered. Most important is the individualized nature of teacher development activities which depend on the development of Individualized Teacher Instructional Programs (ITIP) and Teacher/ Teacher Center negotiation of learning outcomes.
Affiliation:	Buncombe County School System
Support:	Higher Education Act of 1965, Teacher Center Program
Decision-Making:	Director and staff Mountain Area Teacher Education Center Policy Board
Origin:	School system personnel designed and wrote a proposal to implement a "teacher-centered" program.
Information:	A calendar and newsletter disseminates information to the several school systems of the western educational district of North Carolina. Two-way communications are maintained throughout the region. A wide range of teacher-produced material is available.

THE STAFF DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The Old Rock School
Main Street
Valdese, North Carolina 28619

(704-879-9322)

Director: Maurine Huffman

Hours: Open daily Monday - Friday, twelve months, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (hours exceeding those designated as regular school hours) and nightly for scheduled workshops and degree programs.

Program: The Staff Development Center offers a program which provides teachers training and meets teacher needs with an individualized approach. This approach requires designing and implementing specific "how to" workshops based on the identified needs of teachers, identifying personnel with the expertise to conduct workshops, developing and producing and/or purchasing curriculum materials to meet educational needs, familiarizing educators with the latest information in curriculum development and research and assisting with the coordination of and providing facilities for staff development activities - - mini workshops, inservice of an extended duration and/or full degree programs through area colleges and universities.

The program meets individual teacher needs by encouraging drop-in use of the Center for browsing and by answering requests through consultation regarding instructional matters and through the function of clerical services such as laminating, typing, etc.

Resources: A Resource Materials Room which offers teachers varied materials for copying and exemplifies methodologies for implementing, a Curriculum Lab which makes available a storehouse of commercial materials for sign-out, two instructional sites which provide settings for workshops, county-level committee meetings and other professional functions, an office area, a large closet space which provides an organization system for storing supplies and materials, and varied pieces of equipment which meet office demands, workshop requests, and teacher needs.

Staff: Maurine Huffman, Director (twelve monts); Linda Merritt, Secretary (ten months); and Rosalie Powell, Aide (ten months).

Setting: The lower level of a vacated elementary school buildng, centrally located in the county for all school personnel.

Participation: Early childhood, elementary, and secondary teachers; support personnel; parent volunteer groups, college classes; individual college students and lay persons from the school district and from surrounding counties use the center.

Fees and Credit: The center is service oriented. College and university courses and degree programs are offered at the center in order to reduce travel and time for the participants. Many workshops are designed and presented at no cost to the participants, or a little cost ($5 per course) thourgh the Continuing Education Dept. of the local community college.

When special services are provided during the summer months or other non-contract time — development of skills continuums, curriculum guides, etc. — these professionals are paid a $5.00 per hour stipend. When special in-service is provided or when professionals provide system-wide services during the regular school day, release time is provided with substitute teachers paid from local funds.

Affiliation: Burke County Public School System

Support: The Burke County Public School System and special State Staff Development allocations provide the center's funding.

Decision-Making: A Teacher Center Policy Board has been established to serve as governing body of the Teacher Center. The Board consists of a balanced K-12 membership, including additional representatives from area colleges, universities and the Board of Education. This make-up consists of one kindergarten teacher, one third grade teacher, one fifth/sixth grade teacher, one physical education teacher, one social studies teacher, one science teacher, one gifted and talented teacher, one ESEA Title I teacher, one occupational teacher, one guidance counselor, one administrator, a college professor, a director of teacher education at an area college, a department head at a local community college, one Board member, an assistant superintendent for instruction, and director of the Staff Development Center. The Board meets approximately four times yearly.

Origin: A dream to centralize efforts for developing a curriculum and preparing teachers to better meet the needs of their students became a reality when the Staff Development Center — an outgrowth of a three-year Title IV-C Project — was established in July, 1977.

Information: Out-put

Workshop and degree program notices, curriculum lab catalog with additional and/or revisions sent periodically, newsletters.

Input

Service requests from teachers, responses on in-service surveys.

TEACHING/LEARNING CENTER

Staff Development Center
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools
428 West Boulevard
Charlotte, North Carolina 28203

(704) 376-0122

Directors: Deane Crowell - Education Center - (704) 372-8620
Gene Sweezy - Staff Development Center - (704) 376-0122

Hours: Monday - Thursday (8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.)
Friday (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

During the summer the center is opened from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Program: The TLC operates on the belief that teachers know what their professional and personal needs are, and should be given the support and opportunities to determine how these needs are met.

The Teaching/Learning Center provides opportunities where (1) Teachers are both learners and teachers. (2) Teachers participate in and facilitate TLC experiences on a voluntary basis. (3) Teachers develop individual growth plans and obtain assistance in carrying out those plans. (4) Teachers share resources and skills. (5) Teachers stay abreast of current education knowledge, materials, and techniques on local, state and national level.

Two additional areas of emphasis are being started during 1979-80: a continuing program for first year teachers and study groups on various interest areas.

Resources: Human:

a. Working with teachers:
   - on an individual basis
   - in curriculum development
   - on materials design
   - through the Resource Bank network
   - as TLC Advisory Coordinators in program planning and setting priorities
   - in pre-service training

b. Working with school staff on:
   - classroom organization
   - classroom management
   - teaming
   - communications
   - discipline
   - materials development

c. Being responsive to requests from TLC drop-in traffic

d. Hosting and sharing resources with other Teacher Centers

RESOURCES (Continued):

Material:
a. Displays
b. Laminating machines
c. Recycle materials
d. Samples of newly published materials and books for preview
e. Book Store
f. Science Culture Center
g. Puppet Place
h. Skills Boxes
i. Cardboard Carpentry
j. Newsletter
k. Workshops

Staff: Deane Crowell and Gene Sweezy (contact persons)
Resource Teachers: Barbara Keelan, Carol Newman, and Carol Beaver
Aides: Valerie Robinson Alice Maniloff

Setting: The TLC is part of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools' Staff Development Center. The TLC comprises 25% of the building.

Participation: Professional and non-professionals from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, which includes about 4,700 teachers.

Fees and Credit: A small fee is charged for workshops and materials.

Renewal credit is granted to participants of workshops.

Graduate credits are being offered from several colleges upon completion of courses.

Affiliation/ Support: Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools.

Decision Making: Human Resources Area Staff and teachers.

Origin: Mandated by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education in 1976.

Information: Monthly newsletter, brochures, video-tapes, slides, and Staff Development Center brochures.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Durham City Schools
North Durham Building
P. O. Box 2246
Durham, North Carolina 27702

(919) 688-2361, ext. 278

Director: Jeanne H. Lucas

Hours: Open during school hours, evenings until 6:00 p.m. and summer months. The Center operates twelve months.

Program: The Durham City Schools Staff Development Center serves Durham City, public and private schools.

During the regular school hours, after school and evenings in-service workshops are held: Art, Drugs, Exceptionalities, Economics, Media, Metrics, Math, Reading, Nutrition, Gymnastics, etc. The Staff Development Bulletin contains the listing of workshops and the yearly schedule of workshops. The main focus of the Center is In-Service Workshops.

The Center provides for a Speakers' Bureau, which sponsors an issue-oriented lecture series on a variety of topics. The Bureau involves persons who work within and outside of the LEA.

The Professional Resource Room in the Center is designed around a lending-library format to disseminate teacher-made and commercially-made materials. The PRR is an effort to expose educators to the new materials available and to assist them in dealing with the diversity of students.

Current educational journals, magazines, books and other information for the various curriculum areas are provided through the Professional Library.

A Monthly Newsletter and Bi-monthly Newsletter are disseminated to promote and highlight educational activities and issues on local, state, and national levels.

The Volunteer Orientation Program provides for the coordination of interested resource persons available to assist teachers in improving the quality of education.

Resources: Professional Library, Professional Resource Room, Monthly Newsletter, In-service Workshops, Speakers Bureau and Volunteer Service Program comprise the functional framework for the Center. All these services are provided for the staff.

Staff: Jeanne H. Lucas, director; Gail I. Myers, secretary

Setting:	The Center is housed in the North Durham School Building which is centrally located in Durham. This building has been converted into a quasi-instructional facility. In addition, as a quasi-instructional facility, the North Durham Building is often the location of the SDC's instructional, semi-instructional and non-instructional activities.
Participation:	The use of the Center by city, private, professional and paraprofessional staff is on volunteer time. Released time is provided on a very limited basis.
Fees and Credit:	The workshops sponsored by the Staff Development Center offer renewal credit at no cost to the participants.
Affiliation:	Durham City School District
Support:	Title IV-C and Durham City Schools
Decision-Making:	The ultimate authority of the Staff Development Center is vested in the legal control of the Durham City Board of Education. An advisory committee and an advisory team composed of teachers, principals, and representatives from the administrative level exist to review the Center activities to serve as a liaison between the Center and each level represented in a policy-making role. The Advisory Team provides the major input to program planning and implementation.
Origin:	Initiated by local educators through Title IV-C. In the spring of 1976, the Durham City Schools applied for and was granted funding for the development of a Permanent Center for Continuous In-Service Education.
Information:	A monthly newsletter and bi-monthly newsletter. For each of the six Center components the following serve to communicate activities: speaker bureau flyers, a staff development program booklet, an annotated bibliography of library materials, a volunteer service instrument and a listing of resources in the professional resource room are disseminated to center users.

EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Iredell County Schools
Special Services Center
1147 Salisbury Road
Statesville, North Carolina 28677

(704) 873-7268

Director:	Mrs. Mary T. Nantz, General Supervisor
Hours:	Open 8:00 - 4:30 Monday - Friday and by appointment.
Program:	The Educational Development Center serves as the base for materials and resources available to teachers and administrators as the need arises. The Center also serves as a staff development center where workshops are conducted to strengthen individual skills. In summary, the Center serves as a focal point through which knowledge and research pouring into the system through materials and personnel can filter throughout the whole system.
Resources:	Audio-visual materials, curriculum materials, audio-visual equipment, professional library, recycling materials, laminator, copier.
Staff:	Central Office Staff and Support Services Staff, by appointment. Mary Nantz, Wanona Van Hoy, Coite Sherrill, Burl Carr, and Wayne Rash
Setting:	Three classrooms in an old school have been remodeled to serve as the resource center. One room serves as a large meeting room while an area in the EDC can be used for small group meetings. Office for support services personnel are contained in the renovated building. The Title I media center is also located in the building.
Participation:	Elementary and secondary teachers participate in volunteer in-service programs held at the Center. The in-service may be for two hours, one day or for several weeks.
Fees and Credit:	No fees are charged for use of any of the supplies and resources. Renewal credits for workshop participation are given as appropriate.
Affiliation:	Iredell County Schools
Support:	Title IV-C, ESEA funds were used to begin the Center. Local funds and other special program funds are being used to support the Center as appropriate.
Decision Making:	An Advisory Committee representing teachers and administrators identified the functions the Center should serve.

Origin: Teachers and central staff recognized the need for such a center to coordinate in-service activities and to house materials available on a county level for teachers to check out. The project was originated as part of a Title IV-C Strengthening Leadership project in the 1977-78 school year.

Information: A newsletter is sent periodically to teachers. Notification of new materials, workshops, and exhibits are given through the newsletter. The Center is designed for grades K-12.

THE STAFF AND MEDIA DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Mount Airy City Schools
1119 North South Street
Mount Airy, North Carolina 27030

(919) 786-7701

Director: David H. Long

Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday

Program: The Staff and Media Development Center provides a diversity of services to teachers, aides and administrators in order to enhance professional/paraprofessional development in the instructional program.

Resources: The resources which are made available to educators through the Center cover a broad area.

Media resources available through the Center include a 16mm film library and filmstrips. Staff members are encouraged to use the services of the Center for the production of instructional aids. Production services include lamination and dry-mounting of instructional aids, the design and development of overhead transparencies, the preparation of 35mm slides, tape recording duplication, and video-taping.

In addition to media resources, staff development activities are periodically coordinated through the Center for teachers, aides and administrators. Such activities are usually coordinated through the Continuing Education Division of a neighboring community college.

The Center houses a professional library of over 1200 volumes in all major curriculum areas. "Teacher-made" learning activities are a component of the professional library. Other professionals resources are available on micro-fiche cards and cassettes. The Center also contains numberous teaching idea files in many different areas. A wide assortment of educational games and simulations are incorporated into this library. Many of these materials are placed in the lounges of our schools on mobile resource carts. They are replenished every two weeks.

Staff: David Long, Director; Charles Johnson, Media Specialist; Maude Speight, Secretary.

Setting: A renovated classroom in a junior high school.

Participation: Services are available to administrators, teachers, and aides at the elementary and secondary levels.

Fees and Credit:	Fees are not charged for use of the Staff and Media Development Center, except for the cost of the reproduction of materials. Teachers are not provided with released time for use of the center except as it is provided by their normal teaching schedule.
Affiliation:	Mount Airy City School District
Support:	The Center is maintained through local funding.
Decision-Making:	Decisions are made by the Director of the Center.
Origin:	Title IV-C ESEA provided the seed money to implement the Center.
Information:	A newsletter published monthly. Also, various curriculum projects by teachers and numerous sponsored workshops and staff development activities.

TEACHER CENTER

Wake County Public School System
601 Devereux Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 28041

(919) 755-6308

Coordinator: Norma McGee

Hours: Open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Evenings will need to be scheduled as requested.

Program: The Teacher Center exists to coordinate and bring the many threads of on-going teacher education together into a central organization. In the attempt to achieve maximum utilization of resources and better coordination of programs, this return to centrality serves an essential function. However, no center is capable of achieving its objectives without a commitment to outreach. It must commit itself to providing programs that will reach personnel and bring them in so that the center's purposes and mission can be realized. The Teacher Center will coordinate and provide services for the diverse needs of Wake County Public School System personnel. These have been identified and stated in this order of priority:

1. Material development
2. Information seeking and sharing
3. In-service/staff development
4. Jobber for degrees
5. Beginning internship
6. Counseling
7. Research
8. Demonstration/student help
9. Processing of student teachers

Items 1, 2, 3, & 9 will represent the services offered at the opening in the fall of 1979.

Resources: Professional library (books and periodicals), curriculum resources, raw materials (poster board, markers, glue, laminating film, etc.), recycle materials, audio-visual and production equipment, commercial and teacher-made instructional activities and ideas for review.

Staff: Norma McGee, Coordinator Fay Ewing, secretary
Ann McDaniel and Mary Winslow, Media Aides

Setting: Renovated auditorium at 601 Devereux Street, Raleigh, N.C.

Participation: Personnel of the Wake County Public School System

Credit: Workshops with prior approval may or may not carry renewal credit.

Affiliation: Wake County Public School System

Support: Wake County Public School System

Decision Making: Staff needs are assessed and these needs are expressed through reports to principals and other staff members responsible for providing training needs for personnel. A Teacher Center/Staff Development Advisory Council composed of 15 members: nine teachers (five elementary, two junior high, and two senior high), one assistant principal, one principal, one librarian, and three Central Office staff members (one library supervisor, one director of special programs, one coordinator of Staff Development Services) serves in an advisory capacity. These are appointed by the Superintendent. These fifteen members meet monthly. Five groups of three each meet weekly to review proposals for professional growth experiences (group and individual).

Origin: Interested teachers and Central Office staff participated in a series of meeting to draft the original proposal for the establishment of a Teacher Center. Very early the Teacher Center received the support of the Superintendent and Board. The funds for renovation of the space to be used for the Teacher Center and for materials, supplies and equipment followed.

Information: There are local school staff development representatives from each school. These receive periodically a list of approved workshop offerings. An insert in the Wake County Public School System's brochure, A Teacher Center Brodchure, a Staff Development Catalog, and eventually a newsletter are available.